

What is claimed is:

1. An apparatus to represent the contents of a food storage device, the apparatus comprising:
 - a housing;
 - an informational area associated with the housing, wherein the informational area includes a number of fields in which information related to food items in the food storage device may be recorded;
 - a food storage guideline informational item associated with the housing and representing time durations for which particular food items may be stored without spoiling.
2. An apparatus as defined by claim 1, wherein the fields of the informational area include one or more of a current date field, an item field, a container/owner field, and an expiration date field.
3. An apparatus as defined by claim 2, further comprising a temporal display representing a current calendar date.
4. An apparatus as defined by claim 3, wherein the informational area comprises a material selected from the group consisting of paper, dry erase board, and chalkboard.
5. An apparatus as defined by claim 1, wherein informational area is a first informational area, the apparatus further comprising a second informational area, wherein the first informational area is associated with a first food storage device and wherein the second informational area is associated with a second food storage device.
6. An apparatus as defined by claim 5, wherein the first food storage device comprises a refrigerator and the second food storage device comprises a freezer.
7. An apparatus as defined by claim 1, wherein the housing includes features for mounting the housing to the food storage device and further includes a compartment in which the food storage guideline informational item may be stored.

8. An apparatus to represent the contents of a food storage device, the apparatus comprising:

a housing;

a display screen including an informational area including a number of fields in which information related to food items in the food storage device may be recorded, wherein the information related to food items in the food storage device includes dates on which the food items were stored, descriptions of the food item, and expiration dates of the food items;

a sort icon that may be selected to sort the information in the informational area according to the dates on which food items were stored;

an input section including number of keys for entering information into the informational area;

a food storage guideline informational item associated with the housing and representing time durations for which particular food items may be stored without spoiling.

9. An apparatus as defined by claim 8, further comprising an alert to indicate when a current date is within a predetermined period of time of the expiration dates of food items.

10. An apparatus as defined by claim 9, wherein the predetermined period of time comprises two days.

11. An apparatus as defined by claim 8, further comprising an alert to indicate when a current date is later in time than the expiration dates of food items.

12. An apparatus as defined by claim 8, wherein the informational area is divided into rows, wherein each row corresponds to a food item and wherein each row includes an associated alert, and wherein a first alert associated with a first row listing a first food item and the first alert indicates when a current date is within a predetermined period of time of an expiration of the expiration date of the first food item.

13. An apparatus as defined by claim 8, wherein the informational area is divided into rows, wherein each row corresponds to a food item and wherein each row

includes an associated alert, and wherein a first alert associated with a first row listing a first food item and the first alert indicates when a current date is later in time than the expiration date of the first food item.

14. An apparatus as defined by claim 8, wherein the informational area is a first informational area that is associated with a refrigerator food storage device, the display screen further including a second informational area that is associated with a freezer food storage device.

15. An apparatus as defined by claim 8, further comprising a printer configured to print information onto labels to be placed on food items.

16. An article of manufacture comprising a machine-accessible medium having a plurality of machine accessible instructions that, when executed, cause a machine to:

- receive from a user information related to a food item, wherein the information related to the food item includes an expiration date of the food item;
- display the information related to the food item;
- compare a current date to the expiration date of the food item;
- indicate if the current date is a specified number of days prior to the expiration date of the food item; and
- indicate if the current date is later in time than the expiration date of the food item.

17. A food storage device comprising:

- a compartment for storing food items; and
- an apparatus to represent the contents of a food storage device, the apparatus comprising:
 - a housing;
 - a display screen including an informational area including a number of fields in which information related to food items in the food storage device may be recorded, wherein the information related to food items in the food storage device includes dates on which the food items were stored, descriptions of the food item, and expiration dates of the food items;
 - a sort icon that may be selected to sort the information in the

informational area according to the dates on which food items were stored;
an input section including number of keys for entering information into the informational area;
a food storage guideline informational item associated with the housing and representing time durations for which particular food items may be stored without spoiling.

18. A food storage device as defined by claim 17, wherein the compartment comprises a freezer.

19. A food storage device as defined by claim 17, wherein the compartment comprises a refrigerator.